

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 13631 261101Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 COME-00 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /043 W
-----061120 261135Z /21

P R 290620Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0591
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13631

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, MARR, US, UK, UR, GW
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL FRG PARTICIPATION IN SOVIET HELICOPTER
DEMONSTRATION

REFS: A) BONN 13566; B) STATE 185956

1. A CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL HAS PROVIDED SOME ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION ON THE FRG DECISION TO PARTICIPATE, ALBEIT IN
REDUCED NUMBERS, IN THE SOVIET HELICOPTER DEMONSTRATION.

2. THIS OFFICIAL ADVISES THAT THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN
CIVILIAN CONTINGENTS INFORMED THE GERMANS THEY WOULD
ABSTAIN FROM PARTICIPATION IF THE GERMAN CIVILIAN
HELICOPTER DID NOT TAKE PART. THE GERMAN CIVILIANS, IN
TURN, TOLD THE FRG THEY WOULD CANCEL IF THE GERMAN
MILITARY HELICOPTER DID NOT PARTICIPATE. THUS, THE
FRG FOUND ITSELF IN A POSITION OF EITHER AUTHORIZING
THE PARTICIPATION OF THE MILITARY CREW, OR, IN EFFECT,
RUNNING THE RISK OF BEING BLAMED FOR THE NON-PARTICI-
PATION OF THE US, UK AND GERMAN CIVILIAN CONTINGENTS.

3. OUR CHANCELLERY CONTACT SAID THE DECISION TO
PARTICIPATE WAS TAKEN PERSONALLY BY SCHMIDT AND
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GENSCHER. HE ADDED THAT BOTH WERE IRRITATED WITH
THE FACT THAT THE UK HAD NOT CONSULTED WITH THE FRG
OVER ITS DECISION NOT TO SEND MILITARY CREWS.

4. SINCE THE DRAFTING OF THIS CABLE WE HAVE BEEN
INFORMED THAT THE FRG HAS DECIDED TO AUTHORIZE THE
PARTICIPATION OF A SECOND MILITARY HELICOPTER.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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